

THE CARRIER

Volume XLVI Number 9

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September 1999

MDARC

September Meeting Friday September 17 7:30 PM

Program:
ARRL Candidates Panel
for Pacific Division
Director and Vice Director

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane
Lafayette CA

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HAM Burger Fun Marsha Patterson KE6WKD

Calling all hams. Calling all hams. The last, (or next to the last) MDARC picnic of the current millennium was held Saturday, July 17, 1999, in Baldwin Park, Concord. We have not had much summer this summer. However, the day of the picnic, we had beautiful weather. It was warm, but, not scorching hot. It was a perfect day for egg-tossing and rope tugging. The egg-tossing champions were so far apart, those present felt sure the egg was hard-boiled. That is, until it finally exploded yellow slime and egg shell all over. The tug-o-war was great, but there was no mud hole in the middle. Maybe we can work on that for the year 2000. Some nut in a power wheelchair (oops- that nut would be me) tried to help out. Then I realized I couldn't hold the rope and my chair in one hand. "Duuuh!" Next year, we will tie the rope around the wheelchairs. So, watch out. We might just win. The favorite attraction for the kids was, of course, the water balloons. It's amazing how a kid's aim improves so quickly, with the proper motivation; i.e. getting parents all wet. The other favorite was the annual transmitter hunt. The food was great. It was the usual cookout fare: hot dogs, hamburgers, beans, chips, soda. Oh yeah, and corn. Lots and lots of corn; no pun intended. Most hams do like "ham"burgers. A hearty THANK YOU! goes to George Roush: WB60FH, and Tracey Schwartz: KE6TOT for all the work they did planning and helping MDARC have a very successful picnic.

73, Marsha

CANDIDATE FOR VICE-DIRECTOR ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION JOHN T. RONAN III, K3ZJJ

The year 2000 will bring great challenges to Amateur Radio. Challenges to our spectrum by the government auction block, malicious interference, the need to attract the younger generation, anti-ham antenna zoning ordinances, the continuing challenge to build the stature of Amateur Radio as a national resource.

I can do much to help our ARRL membership meet these challenges at a national level by representing you on the Board of Directors. My highest priorities will be:

- ◆ To aggressively support our Official Observers to help solve interference and enforcement problems, building upon existing relationships with the FCC.
- ◆ To support license-restructuring - to make it more relevant to modern times, but still maintaining traditional values.
- ◆ To recruit new members through education programs in the public schools.
- ◆ To support State PRB-1 legislation.
- ◆ To work to pass the Amateur Spectrum Protection Act.
- ◆ To promote fair and effective band planning.
- ◆ To reach out to the Field Organization and our Radio Clubs, becoming visible and accessible.

I am excellent organizer, delegator, and motivator. I make things work. As ARRL Section Manager for Connecticut, I organized emergency communications during the 1987 Hurricane, and for "The World Torch Run for Peace", featured in QST. As President I improved the efficiency and responsiveness of NARCC, our Northern California coordination council.



As Connecticut Director for the Tri-State Amateur Repeater Council (NY, NJ, CT) I arbitrated interstate coordination disputes. As President, I established the Fairfield (Conn.) Amateur Radio Association as a tax-exempt charitable organization, installed a Two Meter FM repeater and produced a PBS television program on Amateur Radio.

My 35 years in active Amateur Radio leadership positions, as an Attorney, and in legislative activities qualifies me to represent you as Vice-Director.

Effective representation requires active amateurs who understand - because they have been involved in all facets of our Service. Active on all bands, DXing, as well as public service, I have spent the last 35 years working to make our hobby better for all.

With your support I can take that experience to your Board of Directors.

Thank you! John K3ZJJ

MADRC General Meeting Minutes, 20 August 1999

This meeting was conducted by Vice President Mike Patterson, KE6JGA.

Committee Reports

Social: George Roush, WB6OFH reported that the Club owns a Laminator and members can bring papers or documents to be laminated. It is only a \$1.00 per page. There is also, a suggestion box in the back for ideas you might have.

Education: none

Public Service: Jeff Hart, KF6EUM said that they need volunteers: 11th of September he is looking for a trail ride.

Carrier Editor: Wayne Merryman, WB6WZV, needs lots of help. He reported that it was a lot of fun to put out the Carrier. He would appreciate story material. If you are at any club event or public event, write a little about the event and submit it to him. An example was the club picnic. Wayne's e-mail address is

wmerryman@home.com or address is, 811 Topper Lane; Lafayette, CA 94549

Pacificon: There are tickets on sale and the meeting had been changed to the last Saturday in the month at the Sheraton Hotel, Concord, CA this time only.

Door Prizes: John Schulze, KF6MNL said, "We have lots of tools and the grand prize was a special clock". John always has a bowl of goodies to sample as you turn in your fundraising tickets.

Membership: Dick Schulze AA6DL reported for Sam Lipson, KO6JR.

Total Members is 406

Total Family Members is 124 representing 58 families

Total RRRC support membership is 218

Total RRRC Family Members is 73 representing 38 Families (not all family members are RRRC supporters)

Total ARRL members is 236 members

Total RACES members is 99 (members need to get their paper work in to Mike, KE6JGA)

Total NTS members is 3

Total MARS members is 7

Total SATERN members is 3

Total SWL is 10

Total Novice is 7

Total Technician is 114

Total Tech + is 52

Total General is 72

Total Advanced is 70

Total Amateur Extra is 80

And 1 Foreign License with no equivalent.

Budget income is membership is \$15,000 with membership bringing in \$12,772.50 as of 19 August 99.

Treasurer's Report: by Marie Lewis, KF6GLV said that the club has \$4,122.11 as cash and bank accounts and \$20,322.12 in the Money Market Account and at total of \$24,444.23.

VE Report: by Jim Brunk, N6BHX. There were 10 candidates in the session 15 elements were given and there were 2 Technicians, 3 Technicians Plus, 2 Generals, 1 Advanced, and 1 Amateur Extra earned. He would like to thank all the VE's who help with the exams.

Announcements:

Pacificon Shirts, \$18.75 and hats, \$7.00 were shown along with a yellow vest for \$28.75. Ordering will take place in the back of the room.

Guest, John Wood, KF6HFA, the president of EBARC has a fundraiser: He has tickets for \$5 apiece and you get to write on the ticket the name of a club that you want a \$1.50 portion of the donation to go to. If left blank, it will go to the EBARC club. When there are 200 tickets sold, there will be a drawing for a 4 band I-Com HT IC-T81A. The drawing will happen at the Christmas meeting or sooner. If you are interested, Robby, N6MNL, will bring tickets back and forth or Contact John Woods at wood@iname.com

Repeater Committee: The UHF antenna on the tower is believed to have a warranty issue. The company can not climb the tower because of the increase in insurance requirements to 5 million dollars. The company is trying to secure the insurance so the climb will be postponed. Request of funds that was reviewed by the

board was postponed until there was additional information.

A request for two power supplies was made. One had failed and has been replaced by a loaner to keep the 440 system on the air. The other supply is for the new 220 system.

The second request was for a portable DF. The intention is to make it available to the local Official Observers use. Because of the cost, training would be required before it could go out.

Don Smith, N6NKF, described how the local Official Observers have been working with the FCC.

Program: Steve Sterns, KF6OIK talked about the mysteries of the Smith Chart, transmission lines and matching.

John Schulze, KF6MNL presided over the drawing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Brunk, N6LGE

Acting Note Taker

Sunol Mission Peak Trail ride

Joe Gregory

On Saturday, August 14, the International Arabian Horse Association held a Competitive Trailride from Sunol Regional Park to Mission Peak and vicinity. Seven radio amateurs from MDARC accompanied the ride officials to provide communications. The weather was pleasant - sunshine after the morning fog dissipated and a cool breeze on the dry upper ridges. In anticipation of a hot day the ride had been scheduled to start at 6 AM, but actual start time was seven. Club members participating were WA6DQN, KE6DYT, KD6GLY, N6PUL, KM6QX, KO6RO, AND KE6ZZG. The first hour or so of the trail was through oak woodland between Sunol Park and the eastern slope of Mission Peak. Beyond that dry grassland covers the ridge from Mission Peak to Monument Peak and most of the steep slope above Fremont and

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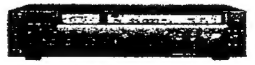
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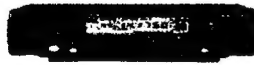


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Milpitas where hang gliders were enjoying the light breeze. We had lunch near Sandy Wool Lake in the Ed. R. Levin [Santa Clara) County Park, very close to the hang-glider landing site. Only 19 riders participated in this event and all completed the ride. The horse trailer ambulance was used by the drag-riders one of whom was too tired to make the return trip.

73 Joe

MDARC Board Minutes 8/9/99

Board Members Attending

Ed Ritchie, K6SFD

Gregg Estep, KE6VTA

Keith Lattin, N6PMF

Marie Lewis, KE6GLV

Other Members Attending

Dick Schulze, AA6DL

Dick Brown, KT6X

Tracey Swartz, KE6TO

Jim Brunk, N6BHX

Mike Patterson, KE6JGA

George Roush, WB6OFH

Lauren Styles, WA6CIE

Howard Burke, KE6PTT

John Ronan, K3ZJJ

Field Day

Lauren reported that we made 2400 Field Day contacts from our site on Mt. Diablo. 700 of those contacts were on 40 meters.

Repeaters Committee

The next RRRC meeting is planned for the Pittsburg Ecology Center, on Saturday at 8 am. Jim Brunk reported that the antenna work to examine and fix all antennas for all repeaters will take place next week. Keith indicated that he personally talked to the company that will do the work. He further indicated that he was going to FAX the specific requirements to the tower climbers the next day (8/10) so they would know our exact requirements. There was no update re-

garding the status of the new 220 machine. The 2-meter machine is plagued by transmissions that don't pass through the machine properly due to a squelch problem. Keith indicated that he had a new card that when installed would fix the problem. He said that he needed to do some wiring on the card before it would be ready to install. No completion date was defined.

Howard discussed his research into acquiring a new professional Doppler direction finding system for the club. The cost was approximately \$1,700. The Board indicated that a business plan needed to be prepared defining exactly how the equipment would be used and maintained including the responsible members needed to do the work and maintain the equipment. Howard and Jim will put a business plan together. They will present it to the Board in writing to get their endorsement in order to present it to the club during the next meeting. They will distribute it via the MDARC reflector and will send to Designlink..

There was a brief discussion about the possibility of having a TV camera on the repeater site. No action taken.

Concord Antenna Ordinance

Dick Brown reported that the planned public hearing at the City Council meeting regarding a proposed new ordinance was postponed until September 7 allowing Harry Styron and Dick Brown to meet with the Planning Commission to try to get them to support the amateur radio changes needed. The delay was made possible by a letter written by Harry and contact with the City Manager by police Chief Bradshaw.

Programs

Mike reported that the program for August will be Steve Stearns and November will be Mr. Hackaig discussing Poly Phaser Lightning Suppression.. The auction for the PACIFICON hotel rooms will be done in the September meeting. Nominations for

next year's officers will also be made in September.

Treasurer's Report

It was reported that we paid \$800 for the new bottles for the 2-meter machine. We now have 404 members and the cost for membership is now reduced in half because we are past the July cutoff.

VE Testing Committee

Jim Brunk will take over the VE testing at PACIFICON. He would like to get more VE's. It was announced that the Sunnyvale group that had been giving VE tests at the fire college is no longer continuing with testing at that location. No reason was given.

Old Business

The Web Page Coordinator does not intend to make the connection with Amazon.Com even though it would make money for the club.

New Business

John Ronan announced his candidacy for Vice Director of the Pacific Division. He asked for the endorsement of the Board. He described his background and qualifications. There are others running for the office he believes. It was M/S/P to support John's candidacy.

PACIFICON

Gregg will talk to Sam about the possibility of selling emergency signs for cars at the convention. It was reported that the Pacificon Information on the Web Page is not well presented and the Order Form for tickets is very hard to use. About 3 requests have come in using a printout of the form. Dick Schulze said he would try to make an Acrobat encoded copy of the form that can be e-mailed to requesting people.

Minutes Submitted by

Dick Brown, KT6X, acting Secretary

Magic of Door Prizes

By Greg Estep, KE6VTA

Every month, John Schulze, KF6MNL has a table full of unique interest items. For a small investment, you can participate in the Door Prize. Before John, Lauren Styles, WA6CIE, did the honors. Both of these individuals scoured the shops for items that would draw you in.

The Door Prize is a valuable part of the club meeting and has its own set of rules. Where else can you hear the words that the first ticket has been drawn and is being placed under the Grand Prize? Supporting the Door Prize is fun, cheap and your chances of winning are far better than the California Lottery.

For those of you that haven't been to a club meeting in a while, we now have the drawing immediately after the Speaker ends at 9:00 sharp. Speaking of meetings, don't forget that we now start at 7:30 PM. The Speaker starts at 8:00 and ends by 9:00.

I would like to thank John and Lauren. Both have done the club a great service.

This month we will be auctioning off the PACIFICON rooms. So I need you to remember to bring your checkbook to the meeting. These rooms at the Sheraton are worth \$79 per night. So there is a bargain waiting for you at the meeting. Just think of the convenience of being able to walk to your room after a day at PACIFICON.

Speaking of PACIFICON, it is just around the corner. Take out that same checkbook and send in your reservation for the Banquet and Antenna Seminar. Forms are available at the meeting.

73, Greg

Membership Report

Sam Lipson, KO6JR

Please welcome our new members and note changes to current members information. Send changes to Sam Lipson, KO6JR at ko6jr@arrl.net or by snail mail to the club PO box.

Name, Call, License Class; Spouse Name & Call Address, Phone numbers, e-mail	* = Rocky Ridge Supporter
* Bantz, Wayne W6HUY (T); 235 Monte Vista, Napa, Ca 94559 (h) 707-255-5546	w6huy@interx.net New Member
* Biandov, Boynan KD6YDZ (T); 1235 St. Charles St, Alameda, CA 94501 (h) 510-865-0778 (w) 415-348-9900x203 (fax) 415-979-0689	New Member
* Deutschman, Chuck KF6QYE (T); 625 Creekmore Ct, Walnut Creek, CA 94598 (h) 925-937-6539	New Member
* Morrison, Phillip E.(Phil) PENDING (T); 3865 Aragon Lane, San Ramon, CA 94583 (h) 925-830-0578	New Member
Norris, Nancy KC1WT (E); 3555 East View Dr, Lafayette, CA 94549 (h) 925-284-8789 (fax) 925-253-1251	New Phone Number
* Richter, John KF6SIO (T); 1550 Springtown Blvd 2-F, Livermore, CA 94550 (h) 925-449-0130	New Member
Rothbart, George KF6VSG (T); Judy 51 Creekside Dr, San Rafael, CA 94903 (h) 415-479-7286 (w) 415-492-1196	softsci@wenet.net New Member
* Wood, John KF6HFA (T+); Midge KF6OGC 5948 Fern St, El Cerrito, CA 94530 (h) 510-234-0527	wood@iname.com New Member

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/6 7:30 PM	MDARC Board meeting	Emil Villa's in Concord
9/17 7:30 PM	MDARC General meeting	
9/18 8:00 AM	PACIFICON General meeting	
10/4 7:30 PM	MDARC Board meeting	Emil Villa's in Concord
10/8 7:30 PM	MDARC General meeting (Please note that this is the second Friday)	
10/15 - 10/17	PACIFICON	

The Carrier
Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club
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